

Deer General Seasons and Deer Special Permits

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Program**

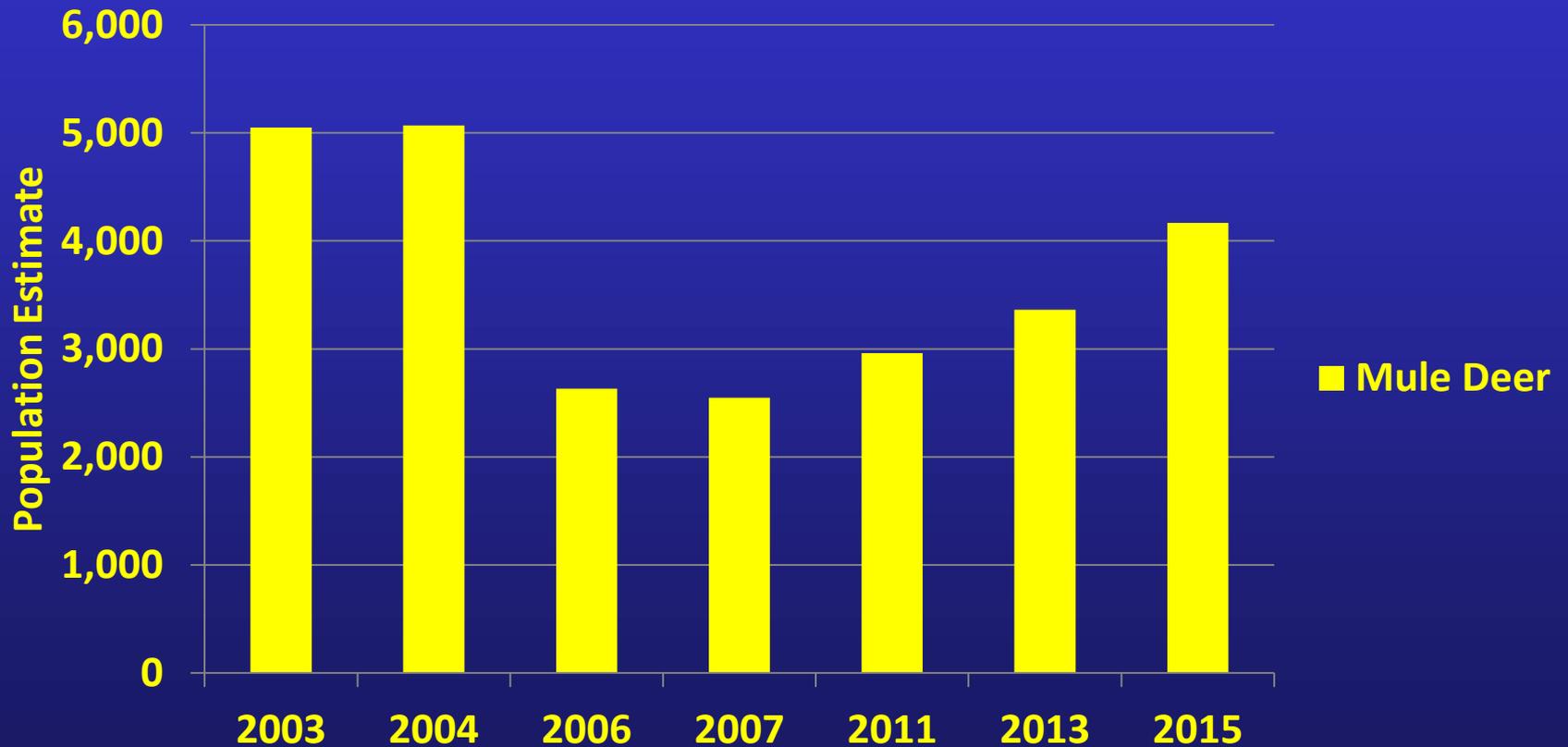


Status of Mule Deer Populations

Mule Deer Zone	Status	Hunting Season
Okanogan	Methow Watershed and Okanogan Watershed, stable despite fire. Buck ratios at objective.	Add 2 days to modern and provide more consistency to start stop dates.
Chelan	Last composition counts buck ratios were at objective.	
Blue Mountains	Harvest and aerial surveys. Stable to increasing.	
Columbia Basin / Palouse	Phase III coverage. New baseline.	
Douglas	Driven routes. Buck ratios stable.	
North Half	Harvest data	
Central Cascades	Aerial Survey	

Region 3

GMUs 340, 342



Status of Black-tailed Deer Populations

Black-tailed Deer Zone	Status	Hunting Season Recommendations
Western Washington	Harvest Data	Increases in Quality, Buck, and Y/S/D special permits

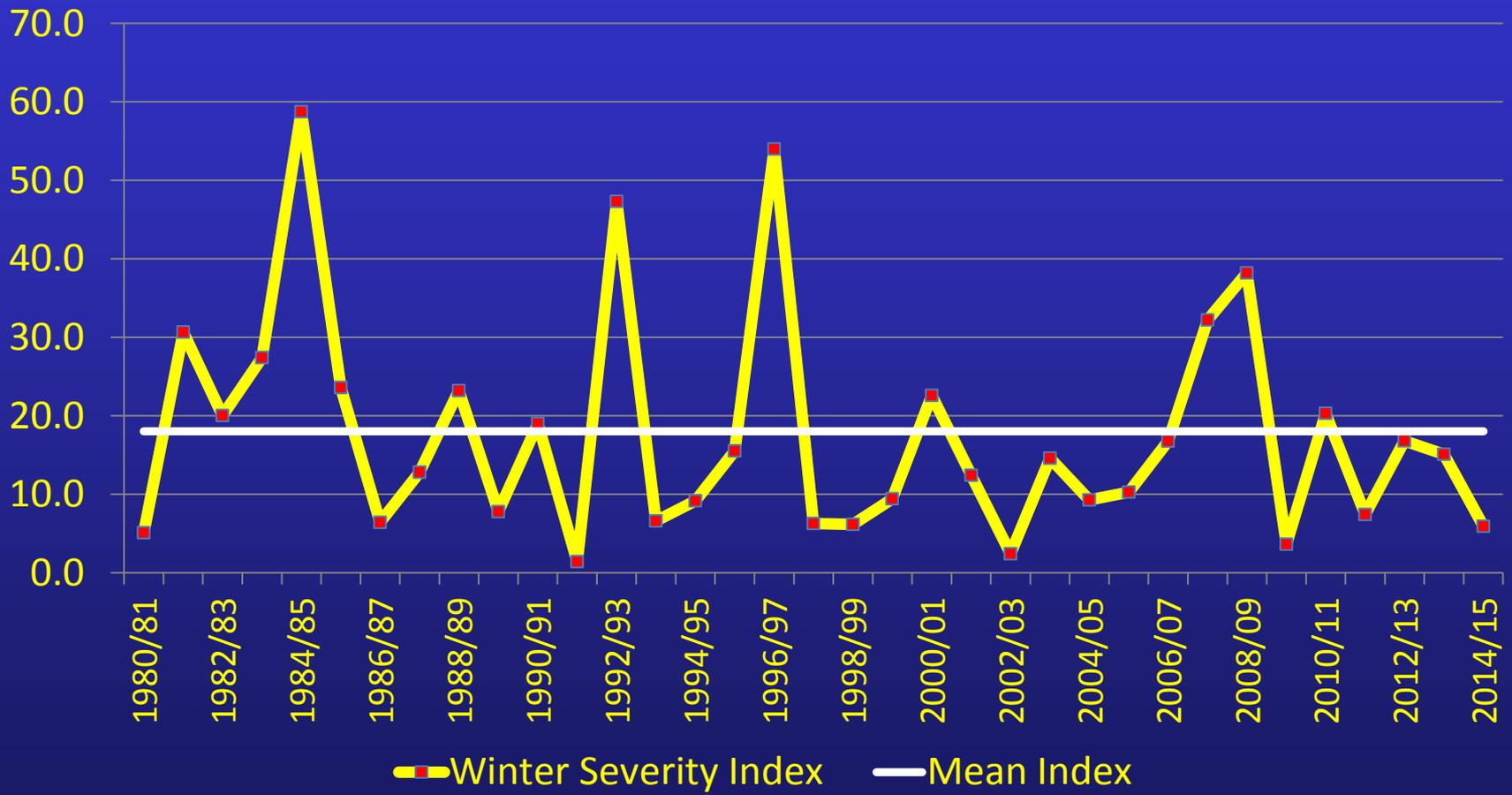
Status of White-tailed Deer Populations

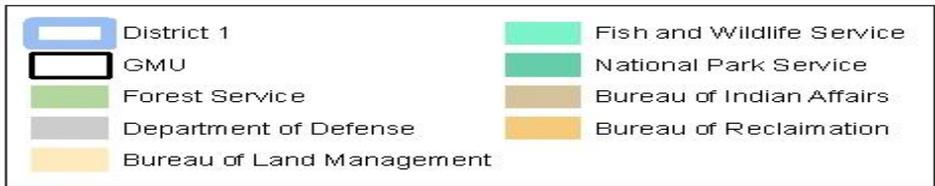
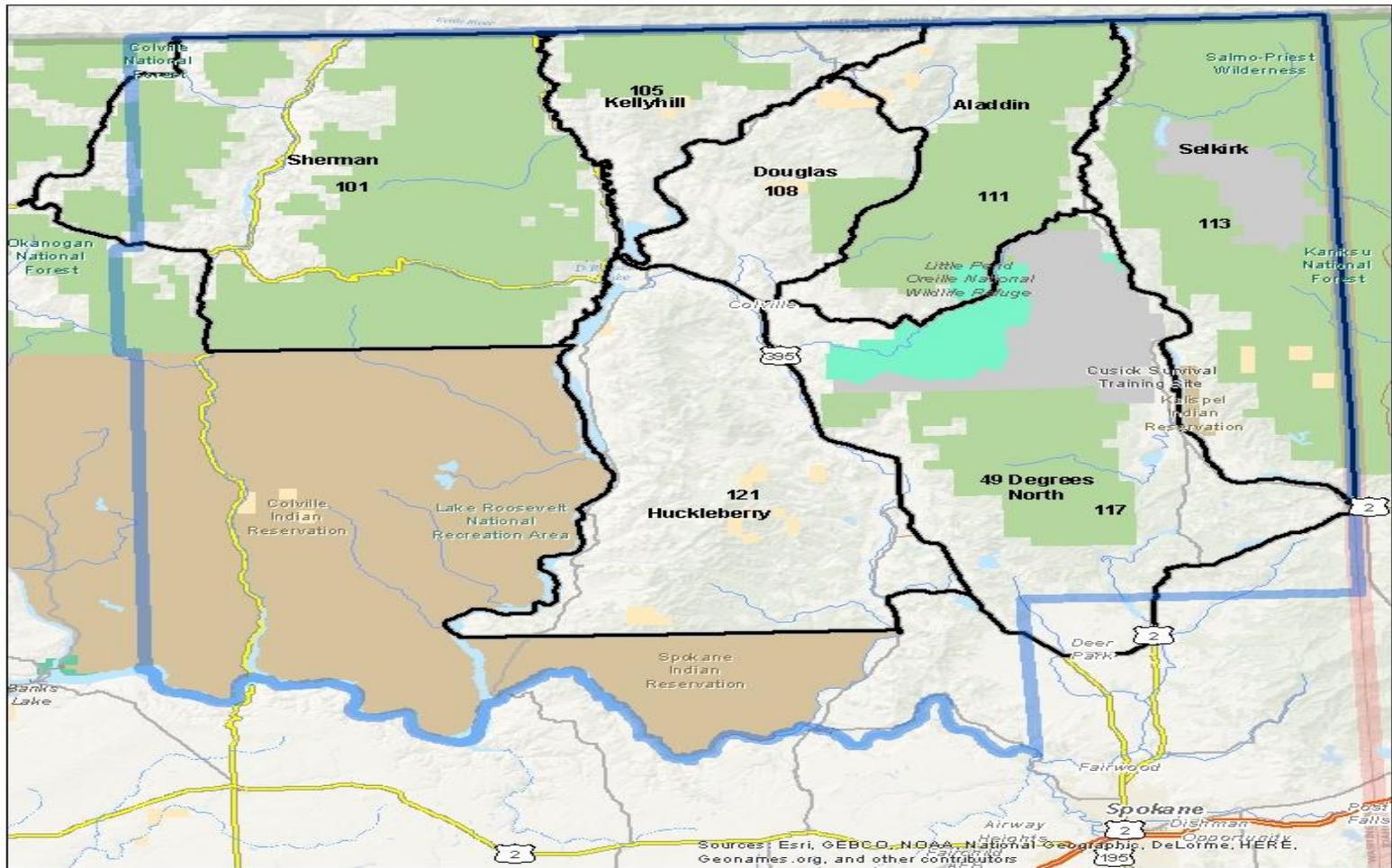
White-tailed Deer Zone	Status	Hunting Season Recommendations
Selkirk	Harvest data and survey data suggest increase	Increase antlerless opportunity for Y/S/D, archery, muzzleloader and any buck modern general
Palouse	Stable	Status Quo
Blue Mountains	Harvest and north central aerial surveys. Stable to increasing.	Status Quo
Columbia Basin	Stable	Status Quo
North Cascades	Stable	Status Quo
Okanogan Highlands	Harvest Data Limited Survey	Status Quo

White-tailed Deer in NE Washington

- **History included aggressive antlerless hunting and 2 back-to-back severe winters (2007-08, 2008-09)**
- **Reduced antlerless opportunity over the last few years**
- **In 2011 the Commission adopted a 4-pt. min. antler point restriction in GMUs 117 and 121**

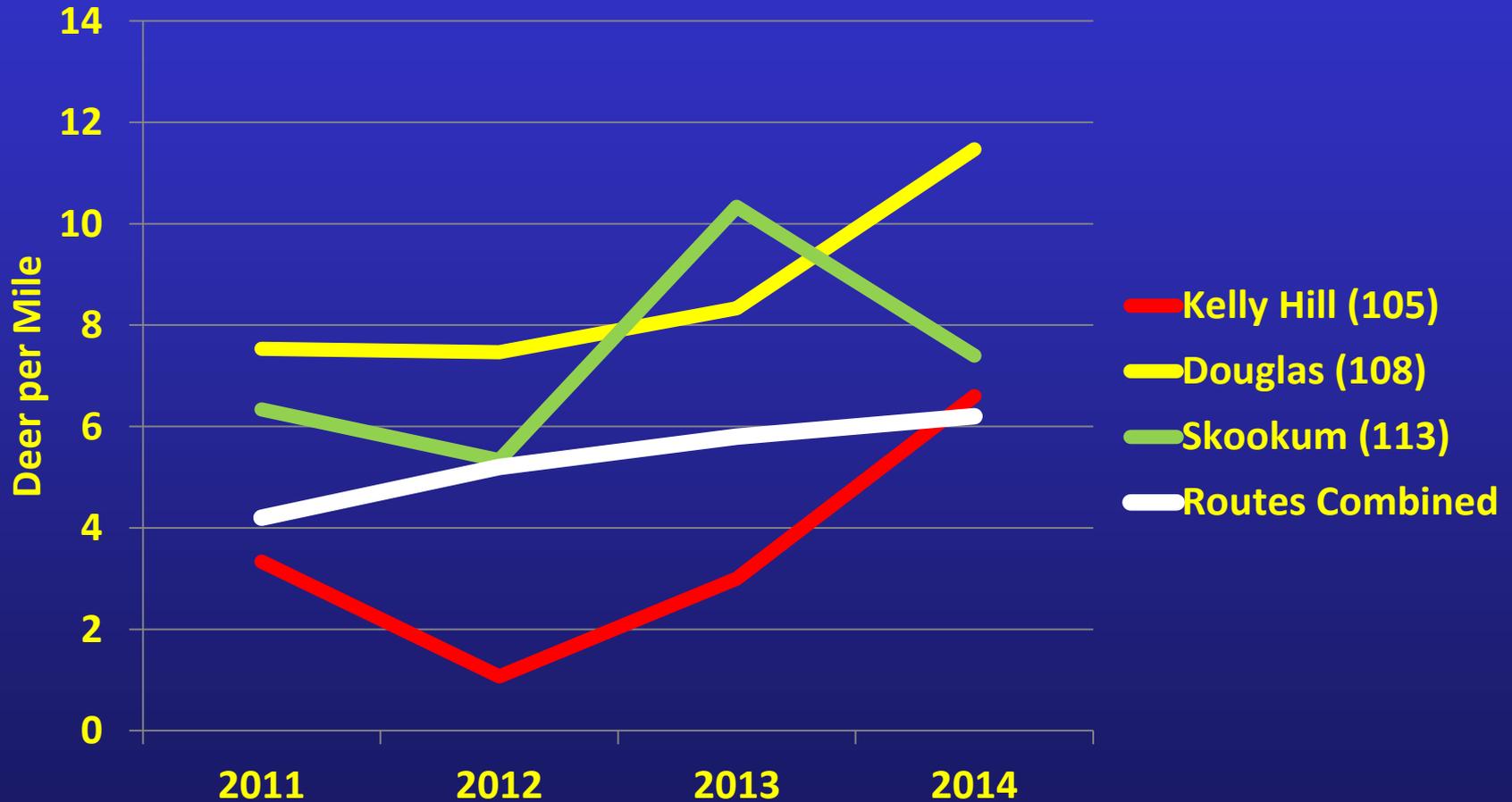
Northeast Winter Severity Index



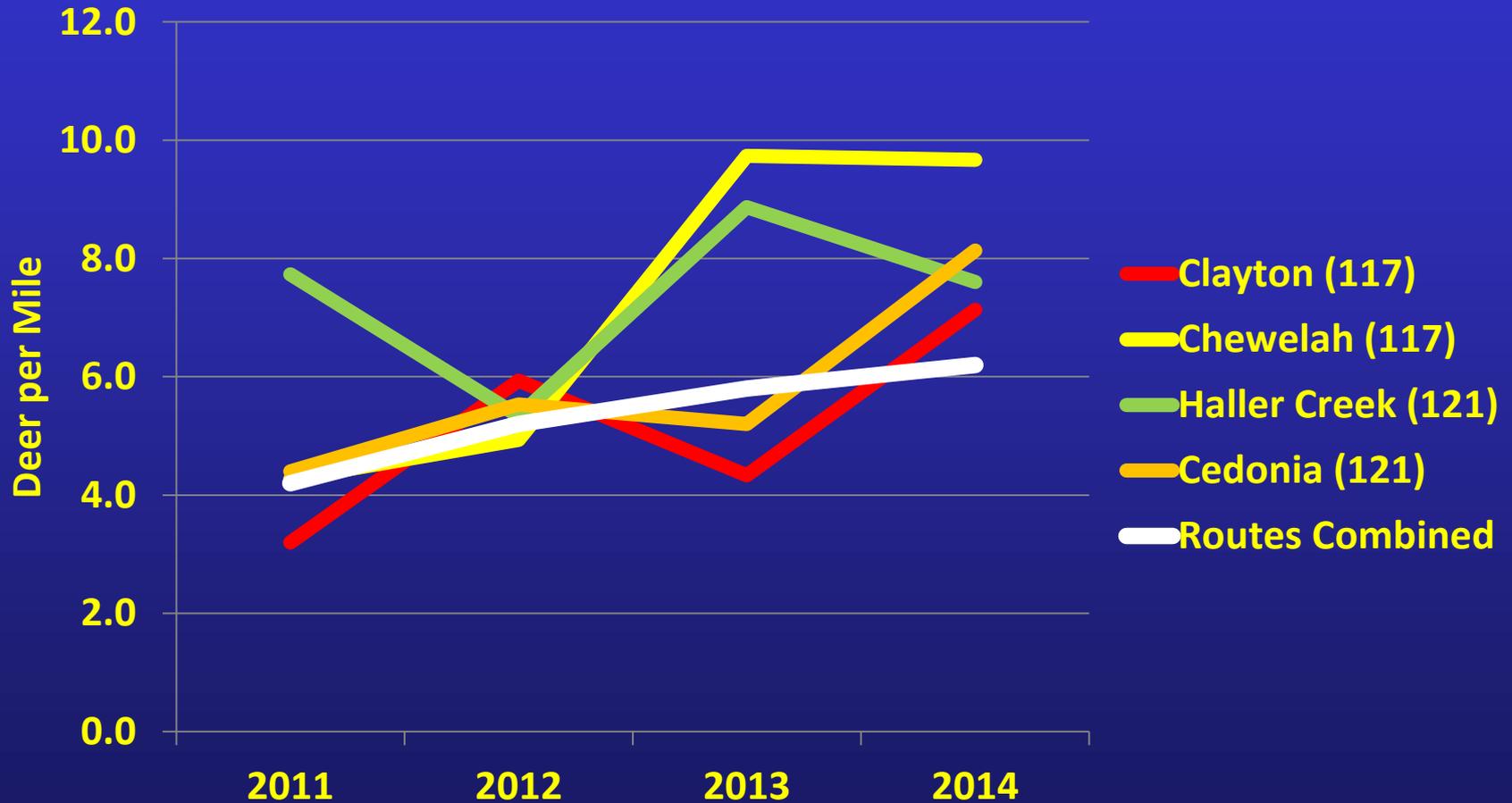


Transect	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Flat Creek (105)	123	138	147	117	143	122	117	50	21	45	109
Douglas (108)	288	198	304	190	177	131	103	92	80	79	122
Deep Creek (108, 111)	42	48	54	84	79	78	51	23	22	49	53
Clayton (117)	58	51	83	97	61	48	38	38	82	65	81
Dunn Mountai n (121)	213	192	165	161	106	42	103	117	205	119	82
Daisy- Maud (121)	43	33	51	45	75	50	50	59	92	74	89
Deer Per Mile	10.5	9.0	11.0	9.5	8.8	6.4	6.3	5.2	6.9	5.3	7.3

Deer Survey Routes Any Buck



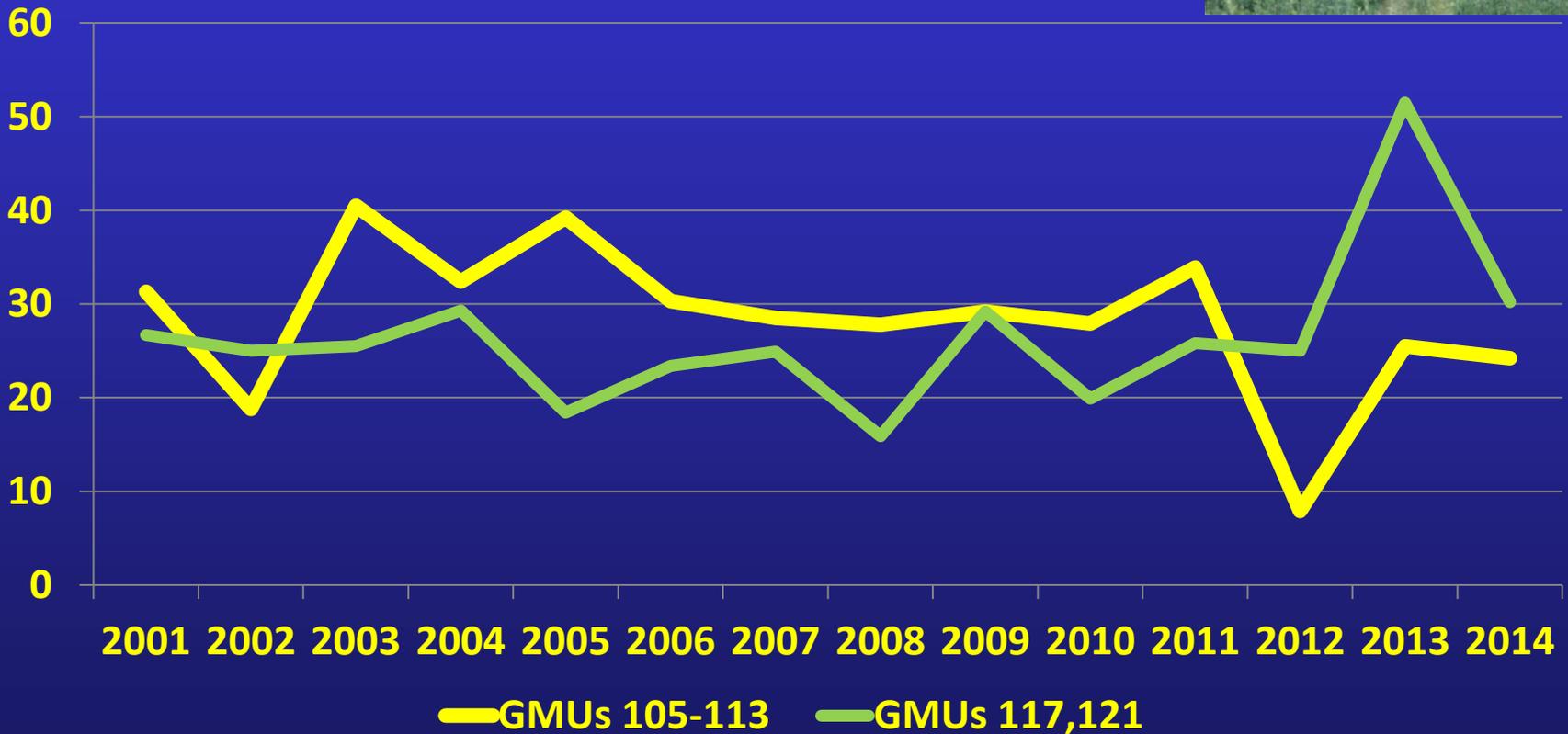
Deer Survey Routes 4 pt. Restriction



August Buck Ratios

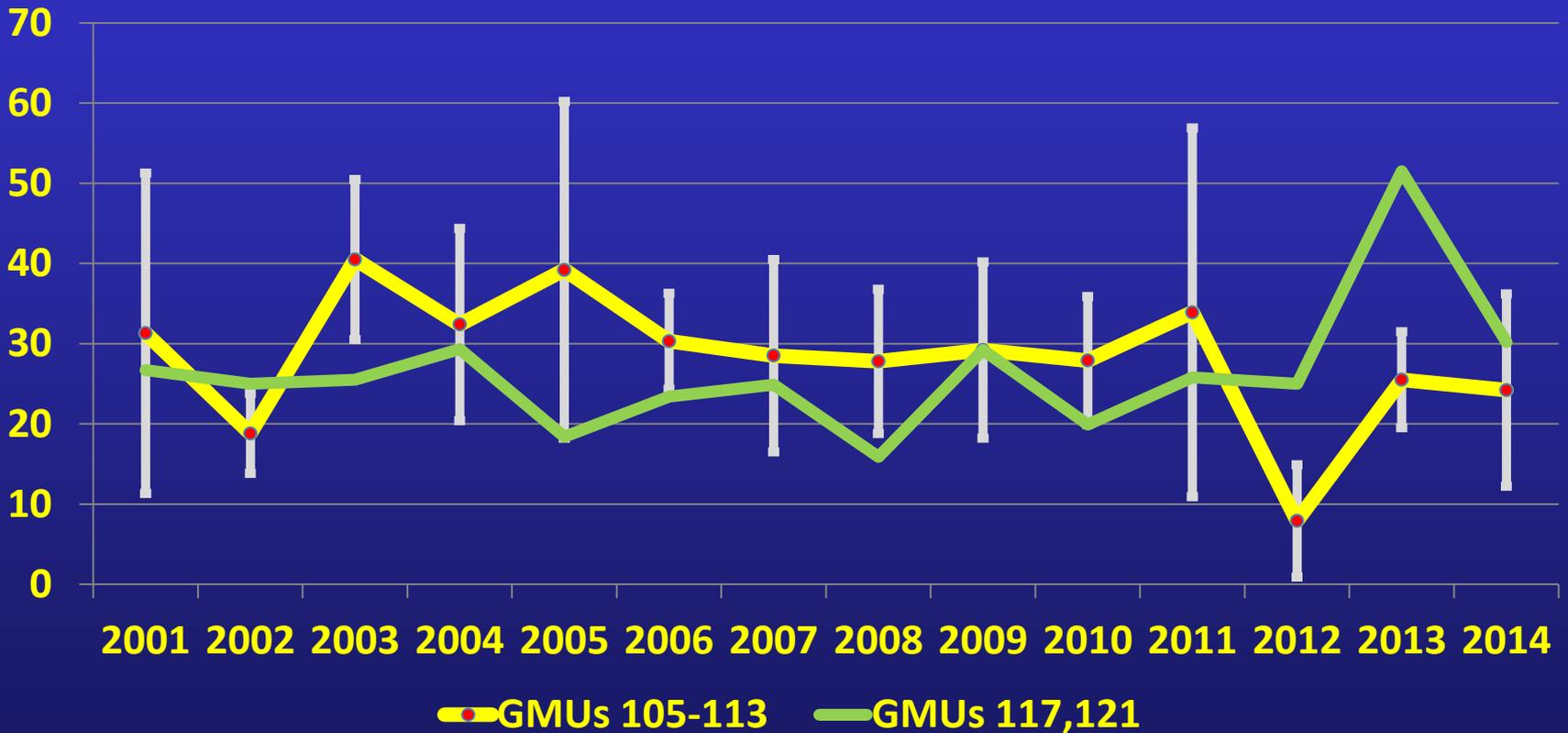


Bucks per 100 Does



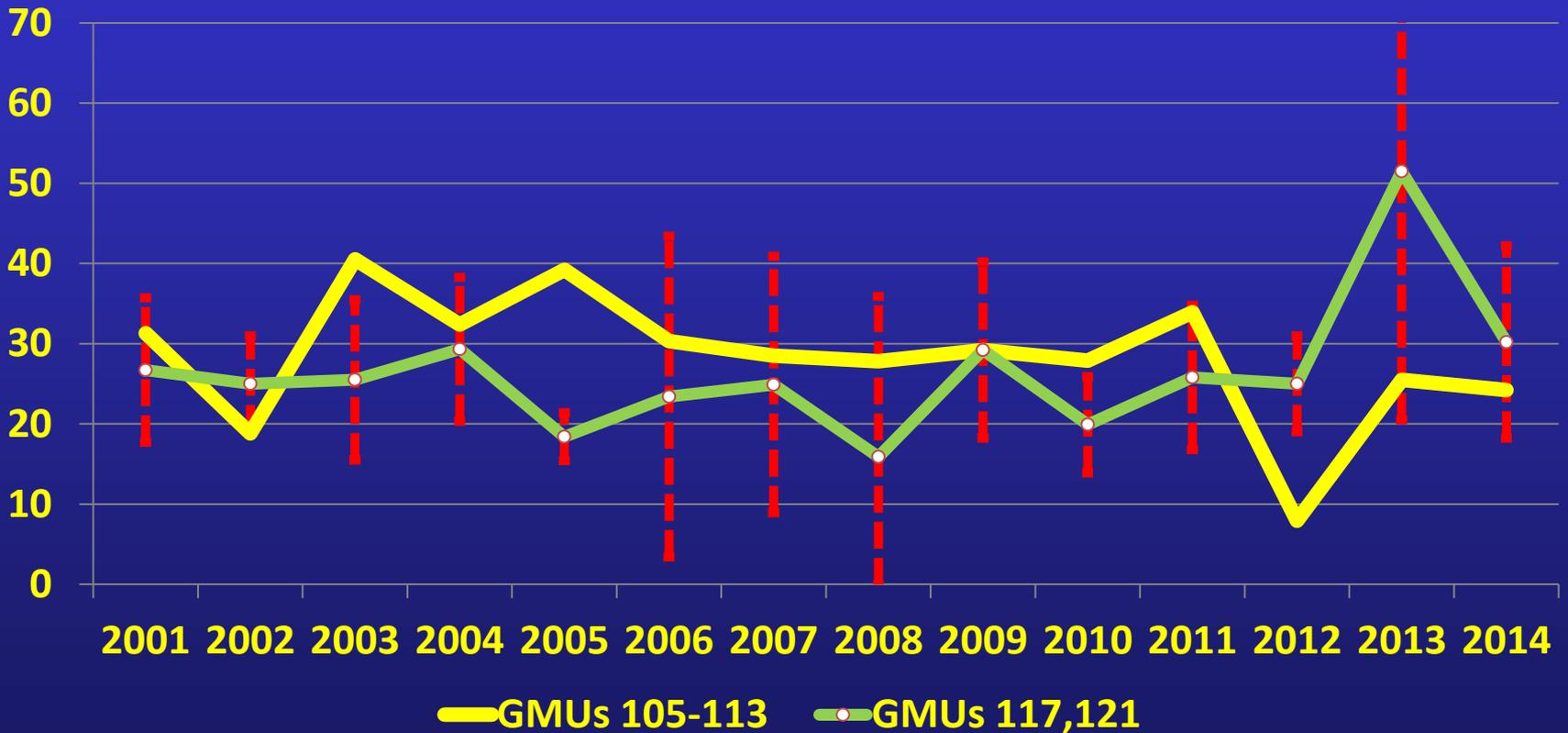
August Buck Ratios

Bucks per 100 Does

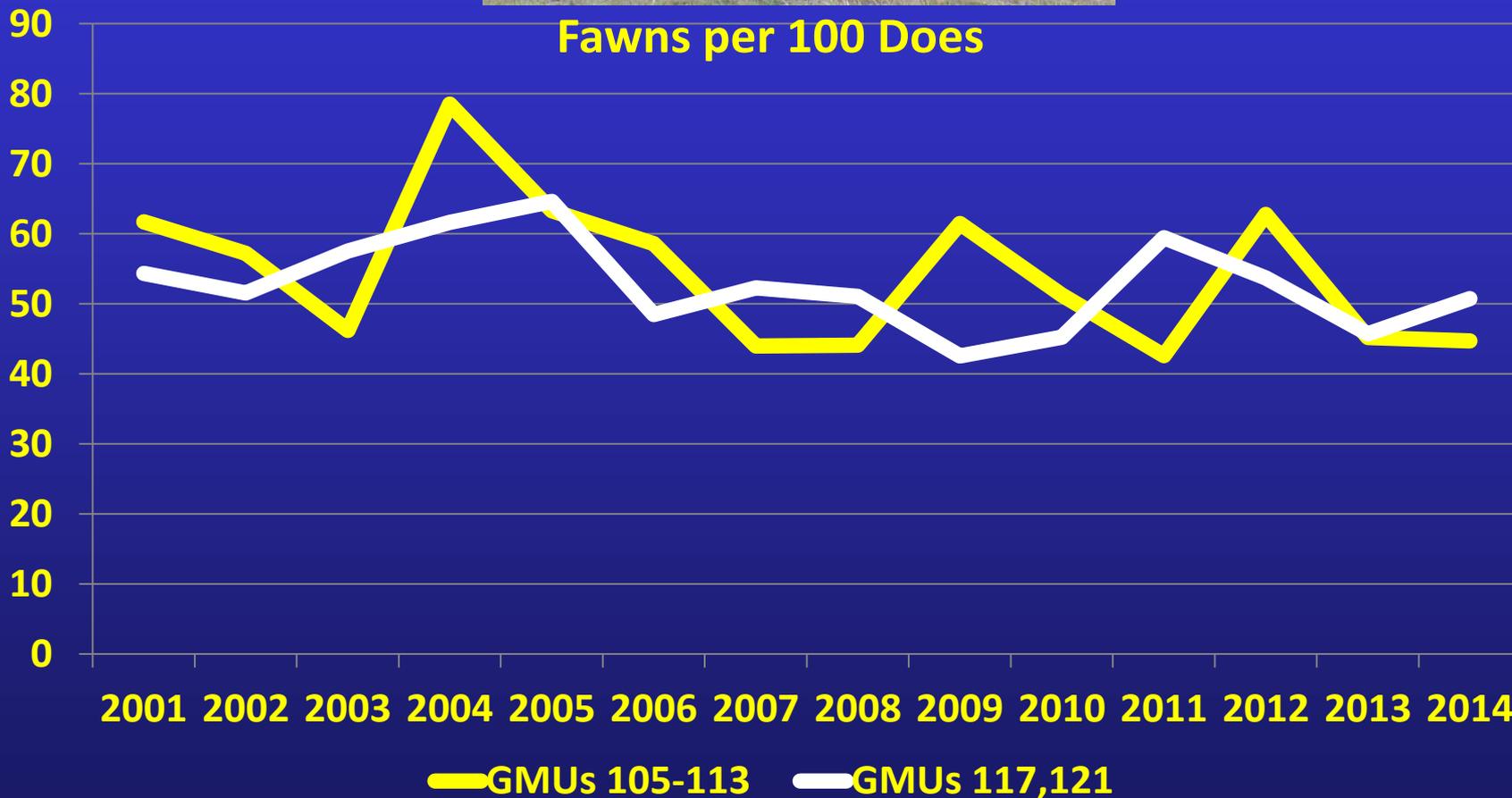


August Buck Ratios

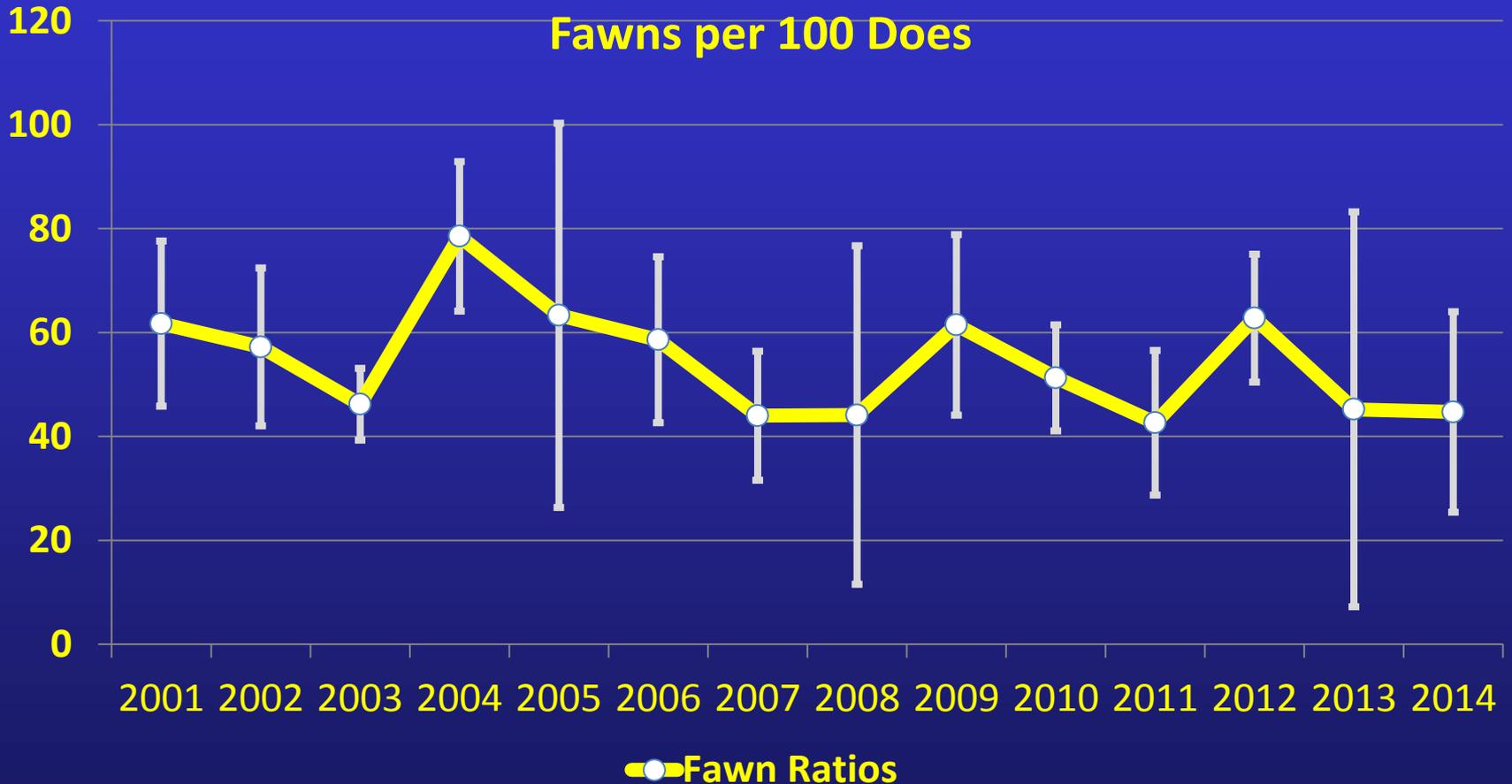
Bucks per 100 Does



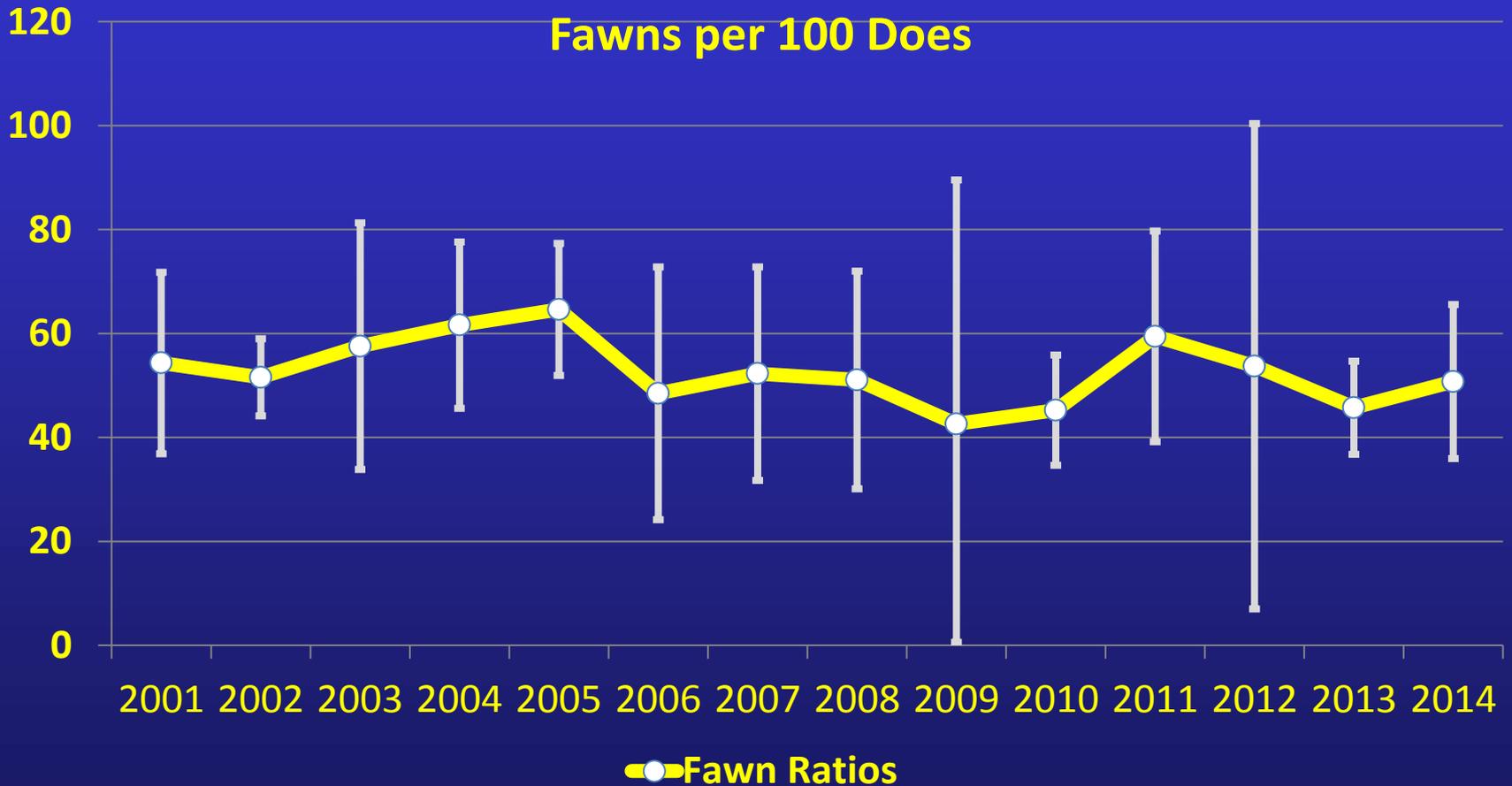
September Fawn Ratios



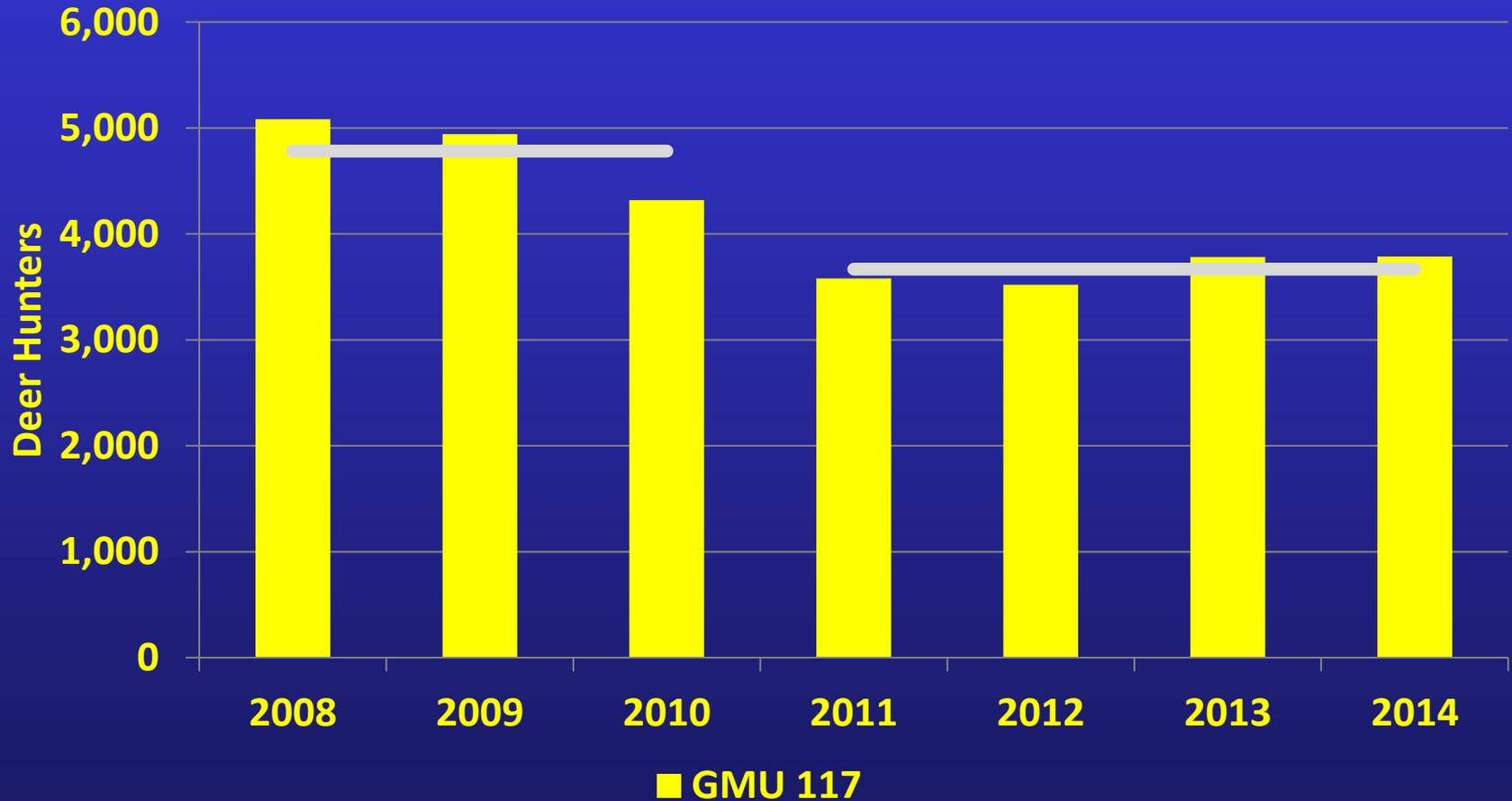
Fawn Ratios GMUs 105-113



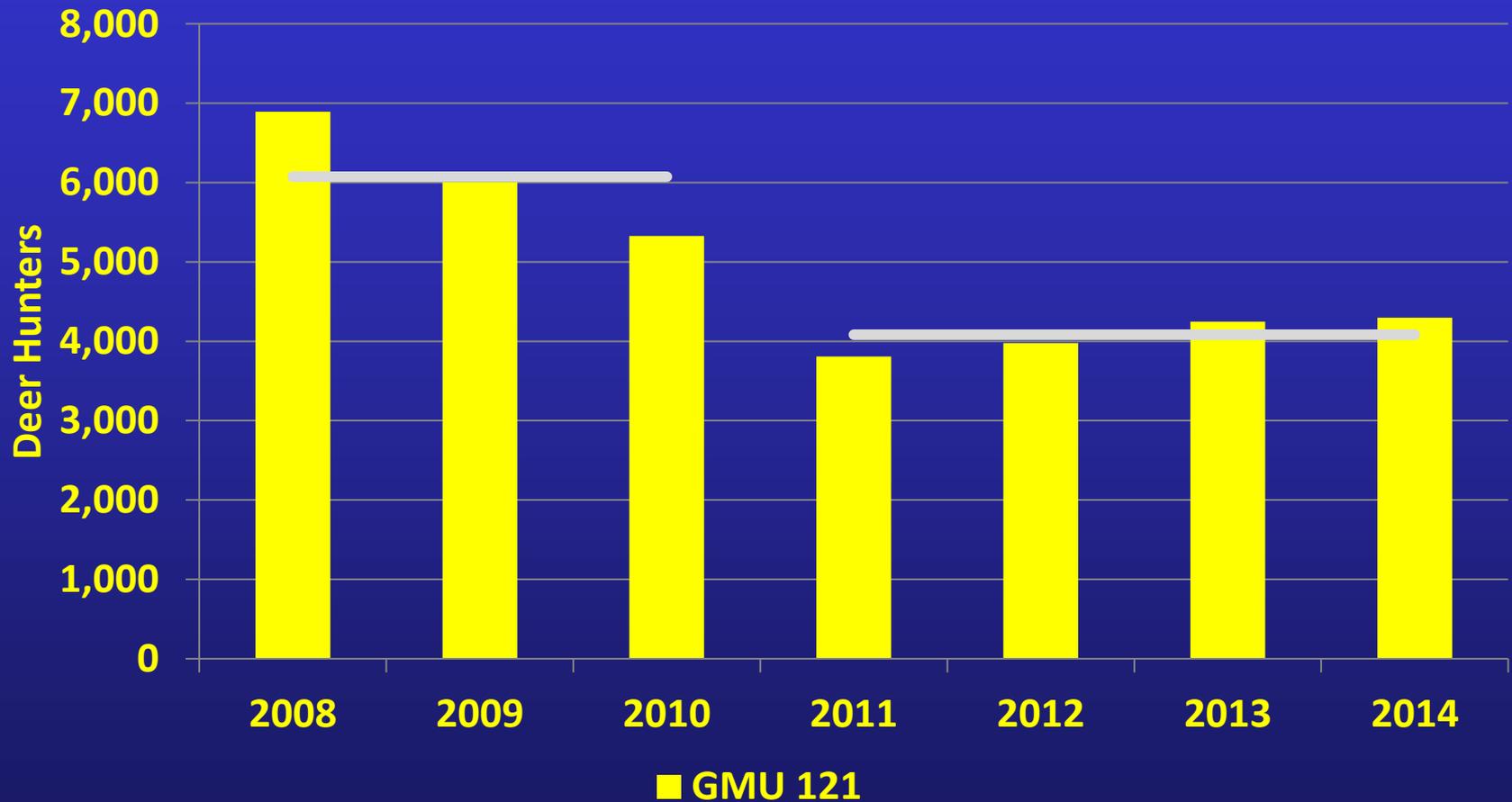
Fawn Ratios GMUs 117, 121



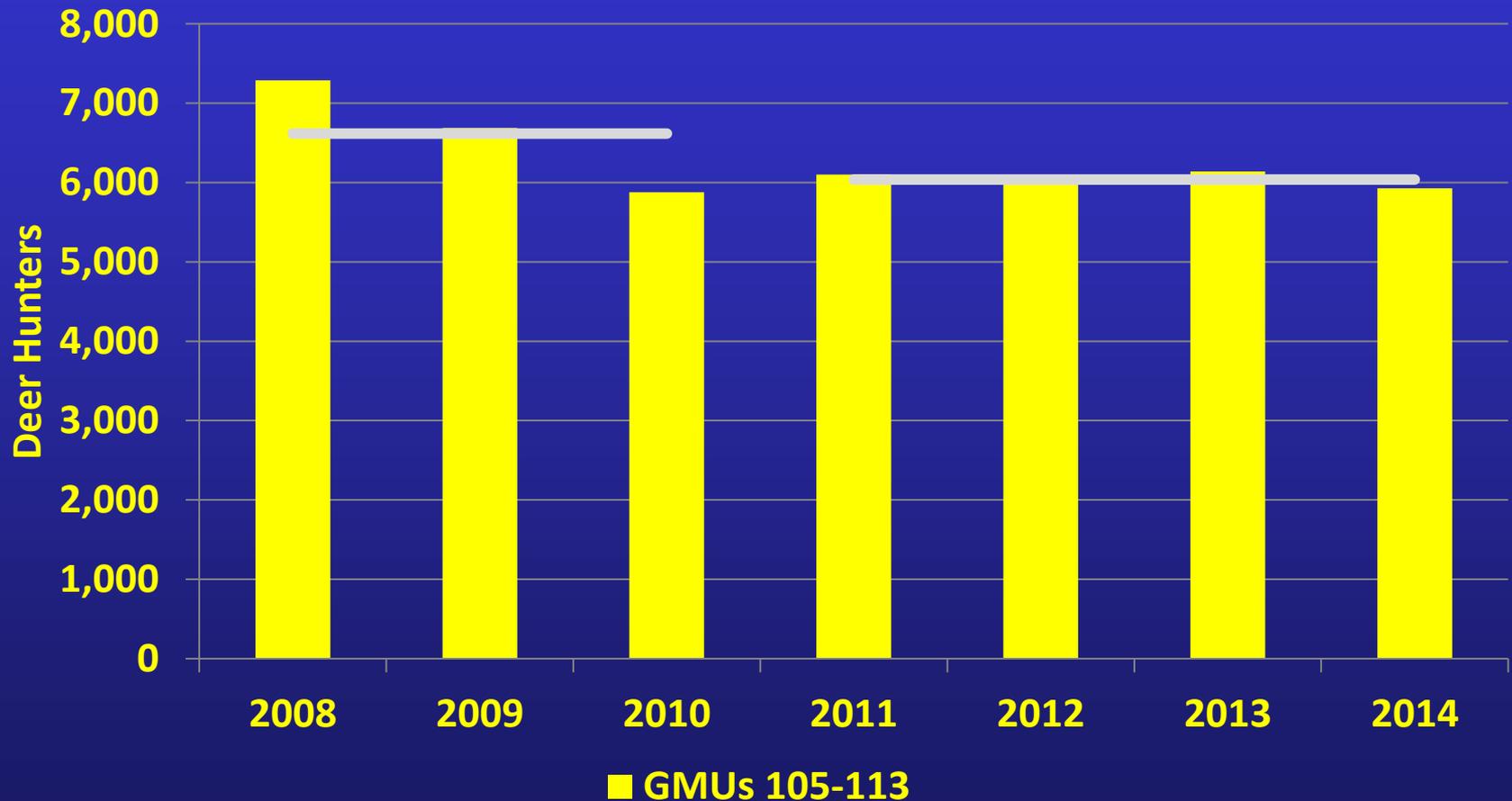
Estimated Number of Deer Hunters GMU 117



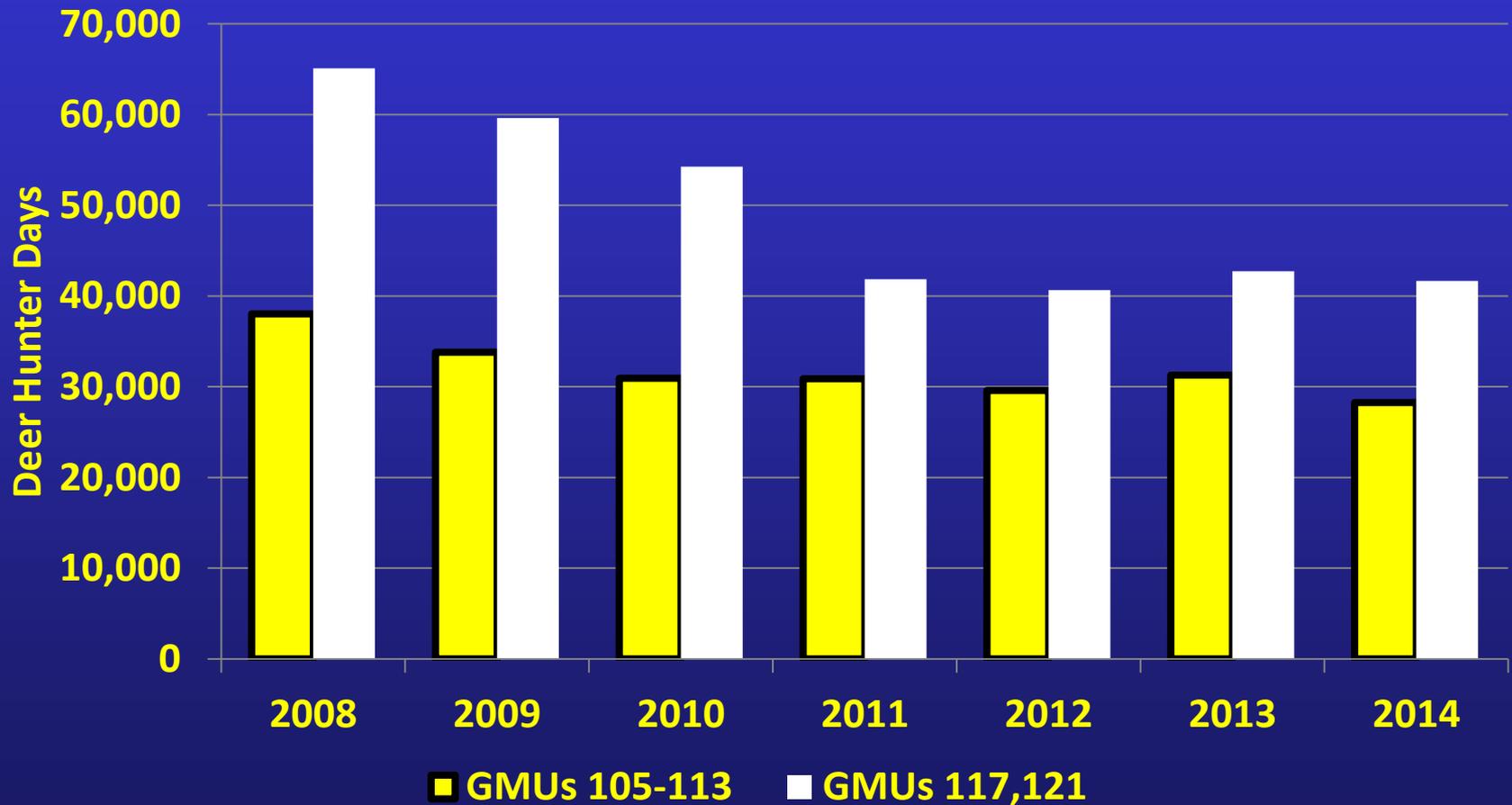
Estimated Number of Deer Hunters GMU 121



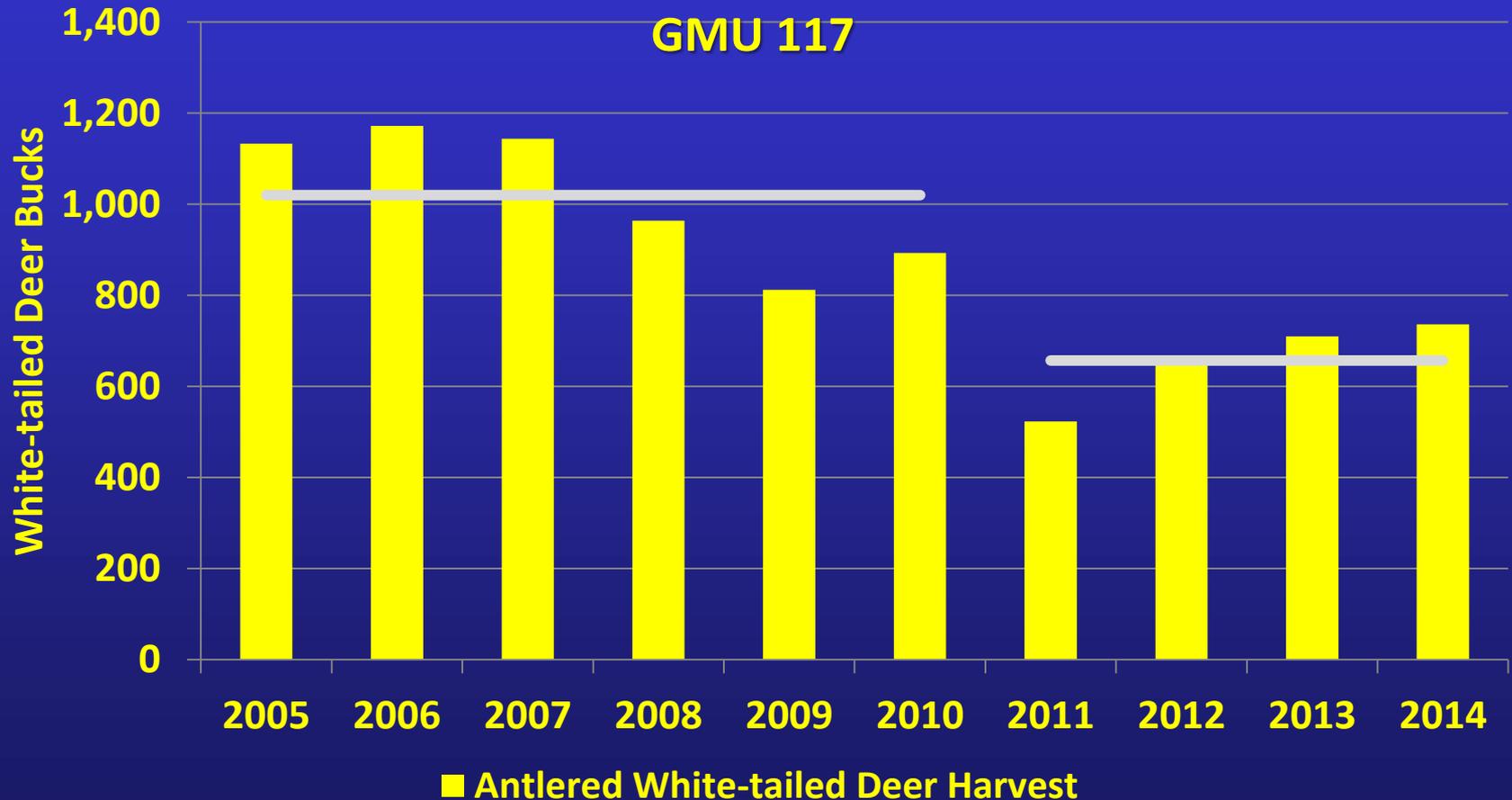
Estimated Number of Hunters GMUs 105-113



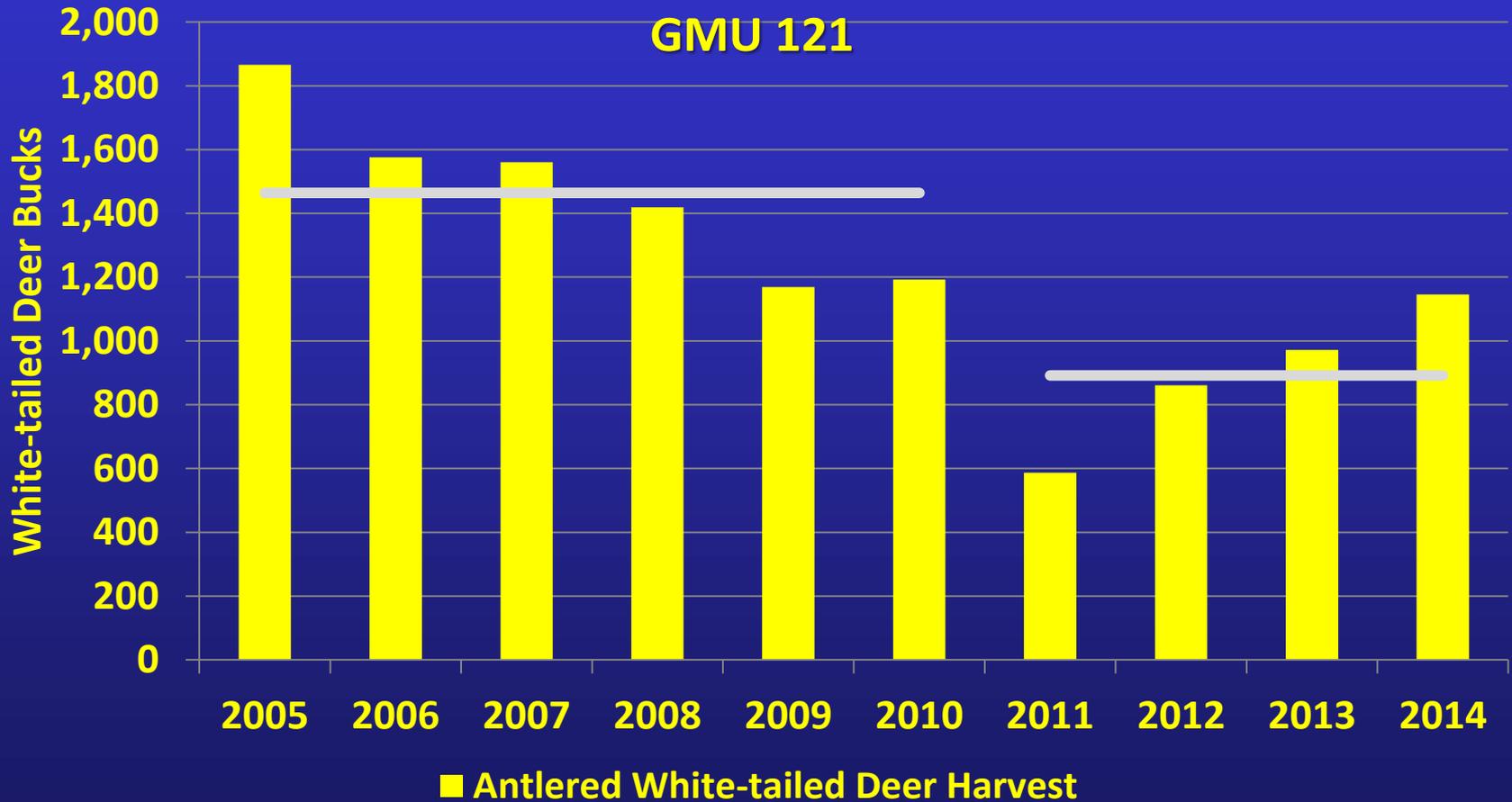
Estimated Deer Hunter Effort



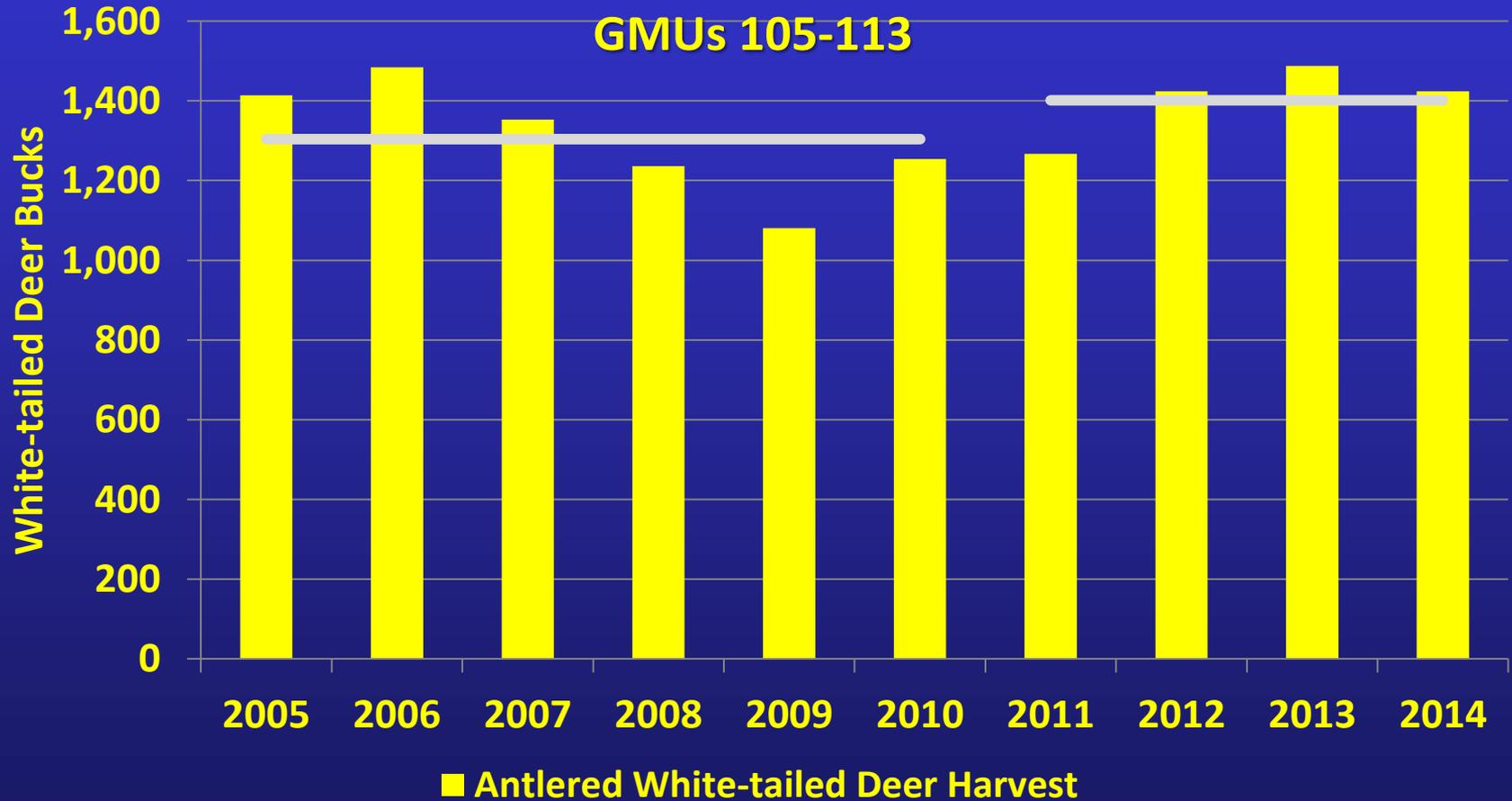
Estimated General Season Harvest



Estimated General Season Harvest



Estimated General Season Harvest



Final Assessment

- **Hunter numbers reduced inside 4-pt GMUs and relatively stable outside 4-pt**
- **Hunter days reduced inside 4-pt GMUs and stable outside 4-pt**
- **White-tailed deer antlered harvest reduced inside 4-pt GMUs and slight increase outside 4-pt**
- **Not Maximizing Opportunity in 4-pt GMUs**

Final Assessment

- **No discernable difference in fawn ratios inside and outside 4-pt**
- **Survey routes suggest similar population trajectories inside and outside 4-pt**
- **Recommendation is “Option B”, return GMUs 117 and 121 to “any buck”**

Deer Season Recommendations

- **Add 2 Days to the Modern Firearm Mule Deer Season**
- **Increase Youth/Senior/Disabled opportunity**
- **Increase Antlerless White-tailed Deer Opportunity**
- **Change White-tailed Deer to Any Buck in GMUs 117 and 121**
- **Adjust $\uparrow\downarrow$ Special Permits via Special Permit Allocation Formula**
- **Adjust Antlerless Special Permits to Address Agricultural Damage Issues**

Questions

